

The Ellgen Watch



April 2007

Dear Ellgen Watchers,

One of our favorite spots in Germany is the Coburg castle. It is a mighty castle sitting high on a hill over looking the city of Coburg. It was here that Martin Luther translated much of the New Testament while in hiding from Charles V. One day as he was looking at that magnificent castle where he was protected it occurred to him that God was his ultimate fortress and that is where he wrote the hymn *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*, or in German, *Ein Feste Burg*.



It is easy for us to find our protection in places other than God. We can look to our savings and money, or to our friends or to our church. But ultimately our protection needs to be in the Lord. We believe that this truth is especially true for the men and women in our military community. The families in Baumholder, like many military families, face long period of times away from family, danger from a very real enemy, and the stress of living in a foreign country.

Since arriving here at the end of January I have taught a good deal on Psalm 121 which begins, "I lift my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of Heaven and Earth". It has become kind of a theme verse for the folks who are part of our ministry as we want to remember that our fortress and protection is the Lord. In order to help cement this idea deep into our hearts we have re-named the Baumholder Hospitality House. We are now calling it, *The Festaburg, where God is our fortress*. ("Festaburg" is made up, but we like it a lot).



Thank you, so much for all of your prayers and support for the community here in Baumholder, Germany. Many of you are keeping up with us by visiting our website, and that has been a big encouragement to us. In the future you will see the look of our website change to reflect the new name and new logo.

Brad & Debbie

Brad and Debbie Ellgen